





favor of immediate emancipation; and a southern publication, for expressing views unfavorable to slavery, notwithstanding its bitter denunciations of abolitionists, was lately taken from a post office in Virginia, and in pursuance of the laws of the state, committed to the flames by order of the public authorities; and when the laws are silent, Lynch clubs are ready to visit with infamous and cruel penalties the man who presumes to advocate the inalienable rights of man. What new ramparts could the southern confederacy build around their southern institution? What new weapons could they forge against freedom of discussion?

At the North, the discussion of slavery is now greatly restricted by political and mercenary considerations; but such considerations would be dissipated in a moment by secession. The very demagogues who are now fawning upon the slaveholders for their votes, would, when they had no longer votes to bestow, seek popularity in ultra-hated slavery.

The anti-slavery agitation at the North, is at present chiefly confined to the religious portion of the community; it would then extend to all classes, and be embittered by national animosity. Slavery would appear more odious and detestable than ever, after having destroyed the fair fabric of the American Union, and severed the ties of kindred and of friendship, to rivet more firmly the fetters of the bondman.

The slaveholders are now our fellow countrymen and citizens; they would then be foreigners who had discarded our friendship and connection, that they might trample with more unrestrained violence upon the rights and liberties of their fellow-men. These considerations show that any expectation of extinguishing or weakening the anti-slavery feeling at North by separation must be utterly futile.

A separation would, moreover, deprive the institution of the protection of the Federal Government. Should the slaves attempt to revolt, the masters would be left to struggle with them, unaided by the fleets and armies of the whole Republic.

And by what power would the master recapture his fugitive who had crossed the boundary of the new empire? Now he may hunt him thro' the whole confederacy, nor is the trembling wretch secure of his liberty, till he beholds the British standard waving above him. Then freedom would be the boon of every slave who could swim the Ohio, or reach the frontier lines of the free republic. And this frontier line, be it remembered, would be continually advancing South. The anti-slavery feelings of the North, aggravated as they would be by the secession would afford every possible facility to the fugitive and laws would then be passed, not for the protection of human property, but for the protection of human rights.

Would the dissolution of the Union afford the planters a more unrestricted enjoyment of the foreign and domestic slave-trade? Alas! from the moment of separation, slave-trading becomes piracy in fact, as well as in name, and the crews of New Orleans and Alexandria, as well as of African slaves, would swing on northern gibbets.

We confess then our utter inability to perceive in what possible mode, a secession of the southern States would tend to guard and perpetuate the institution of slavery.

Would a dissolution of the Union augment the power and the wealth of the slave States? The power and the wealth of a nation depend on its population, industry, and commerce. The increase of the white population at the South is now small, compared with the wonderful tide of life which is rolling over the western plains. And when the southern region shall be insulated from the sympathies of the whole civilized world, and consecrated to a stern and remorseless despotism,—a despotism sooner or later to be engulfed in blood, by what attraction will it divert the tide of emigration from the fair prairies of the West, to its own sugar and cotton-fields? If, even now, armed patrols must traverse at night the streets and highways that the whites may sleep in safety, and military preparation is essential to domestic security, what husband or father will take up his residence in the new empire when withdrawn from the protection of the Federal Government and the friendship of its neighbors?

The slaves are now rapidly gaining on their masters, and will increase in a still greater ratio after the separation, since the prudent and the enterprising with abandon the doomed region, and few or none will enter it from without. Hence it is obvious that the white population of the southern States could gain no accession from their erection into a separate confederacy.

Would secession augment the wealth of the South? Be it remembered that there is now, no one restriction on southern industry and enterprise which separation would remove. The slaveholders in Congress with rare exceptions, have conducted the affairs of the nation to suit themselves. So far as the interests of the northern manufacturer were identified with the tariff, they have been sacrificed at the mandate of the cotton-grower; and so far as national legislation can promote the wealth of the South, the statutes are already enacted.

It will not be denied that the larger portion of the strength of the Union—population, money, commerce, and shipping is to be found at the North. In all these elements of national power, the South participates equally with the North. The foreign invader is kept off her shores, and her property abroad is protected from spoliation at least as much by the power of the North as by her own. Her strength for all purposes of defence, is the strength of the Union. What would it be after secession? True it is, the South would receive Texas into her arms, but she would derive neither honor nor power from the loose embrace. Annexation now, would ensure to her the political dominion of the whole Republic, but after secession, would cause rather weakness than strength.

As we can discover no possible advantage which the South could derive from secession, we are convinced that the threats of dissolving the Union, which her statesmen are so prodigal in scattering, are the obnoxious of passion, or the devices of policy, rather than the result of mature determination. This conviction is strengthened by still further considerations.

Should the slave States withdraw without any aggression on their rights, but for the sole purpose of enjoying in greater privacy and tranquility the sweets of slavery, they would leave the whole North in a state of high exasperation. The ligaments which have so long bound us together, cannot be ruthlessly and wantonly torn asunder, without causing deep and festering wounds, the consequences of which, the imagination revolts from anticipating. And in what light would the dark and gloomy despotism be viewed by the civilized world? Mankind would behold, and wonder, and despise. The new state would be excluded from the companionship of nations. Her cotton would indeed be still purchased, as we buy the coffee of Hayti; but with the least possible intimacy. Already is our minister at London treated with contempt, because he is a slaveholder—as the representative only of men who had shattered the American Republic to secure the permanency of human bondage, he would not be endured at any court in Europe with the exception of Constantinople. In a few years, the slaves would attain a frightful numerical superiority over their masters. The dread of insurrection within, and of aggression from without, would realize the prediction from the holy writ, when men's hearts should fail them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on earth. At length the fatal period would arrive, when, stung with insults and injuries, the new empire would appeal to arms; and should a hostile army land upon its shores, the standard of emancipation would be reared, and slavery would expire in blood.

We well know with what indignant feelings these pages will be read at first by many; and fortunate shall we deem ourselves should we escape the imputation of writing to promote insurrection and disunion. But we appeal from the decision of angry passion, to that of calm reflection. Do we not speak the words of truth and soberness? Do not the signs of the times warrant our predictions? In what respect do the sentiments we have uttered conflict with the lessons of history, or the character of human nature? Do we love the union of the States? If such a love can descend by inheritance, we should possess it; if it can be founded on the most thorough conviction of the importance of union not merely to the prosperity of our country, but to the happiness of numerous and beloved children and relatives, we should possess it. If the history of the States of Greece, of Italy, of Holland, of Germany, of South America, and of our own land, demonstrates the blessings of union, and the calamities of separation; then should the prayer of every American ascend to Heaven for the perpetuity of the American Union. But let it be a union for the preservation, not the destruction of liberty: a union cemented by a sacred observance of the constitutional compact; not enforced by gag laws, a censorship of the press, and the abrogation of the right of petition—a union in conformity with the will of God, not in contempt of his authority—a union that shall be regarded as a common blessing, not held as a boon from the South, ever ready to be withdrawn as a penalty for the discharge of moral and political duties.

May Almighty God in mercy, preserve the friends of emancipation, from the sin and folly of even hazarding the Union, by the slightest encroachment on the constitutional rights of the South, and may He give them grace to maintain their own rights in defiance of every menace.

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14 March 29, 1879. The Committee appointed to take into consideration the circumstances of the southern States, and the means for their safety and defence report—That the State of South Carolina, as represented by the delegates of that State, and by Mr. Hunter who has come hither at the request of the Governor on purpose to explain the particular circumstances thereof, is unable to make any effective effort with militia by reason of the great proportion of citizens necessary to remain at home to prevent insurrection among the negroes, and to prevent the desertion of them to the enemy. That the state of the country and the great numbers of those people among them expose the inhabitants to great danger from the endeavors of the enemy to excite them either to revolt or desert.—"Scribble of Congress, vol. 1, p. 105.

Whether the South Carolinians are from their present "particular circumstances," less in danger from a foreign invader than in 1779, may be seen from the following statement:—In 1779 there were in that state 107,094 slaves, and 140,178 whites; in 1850, the colored population was 323,322, the white only 257,863.

#### GENERAL ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

It will be in the recollection of our readers, that, at the General Anti-Slavery Convention, an address to Sovereigns was agreed to, the duty of presenting it being devolved on the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Committee. Of the presentation of this address to the Queen of England, and to some other Sovereign powers, an account has already appeared in our columns. We have now the pleasure of reporting further progress in this matter, as exhibited in an official document recently laid before the Anti-Slavery Committee by a few of their number, to whom it had been confided.

Report of the Deputation appointed to present the Address to the Sovereigns from the General Anti-Slavery Convention, to the several Ambassadors and Ministers from Foreign Courts resident in London.

1. January 15th, 1841.  
J. B. Behrens, Esq., Consul, representing the High Senate of the Free City of Frankfurt.

The deputation were courteously received. Mr. Behrens stated that he would, with great pleasure, forward the Address to the senate; and that, although the senate had no colonies of slaves, they would feel deeply interested in the objects to which it referred.

2. January 25th.  
His Excellency M. Dezel, Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, representing his Majesty the King of the Netherlands.

His Excellency informed the Deputation that his government had united with our own in a treaty for the suppression of the slave-trade; but, as he found the subject of the abolition of slavery, which still existed in some of the Dutch colonies, was referred to in the Address, he begged to be allowed a short time to consider whether it would be his duty to forward the same to his Sovereign.

3. January 28th.  
His Excellency Prince Mavrocordato, Ambassador representing his Majesty the King of Greece.

His Excellency expressed himself delighted to receive the Deputation on such a subject, and assured them of his sympathy with the objects of the Address. After advertising to the charge which had been brought against the Greek government, that its flag covered the slave-trade, he read a clause from the fundamental laws of the Greek nation, showing that slavery could not exist in any part of its territories, and that the same provision extended to all vessels subject to its flag. They understood him to say, that if slaves had, on any occasion been transported by Greek vessels, it must have been clandestinely; for use there were any cases discovered of forwarding to him the Greek flag, and particulars were given, and a strict inquiry would be instituted into the same. He assured the Deputation that they might rely on the Greek nation had to them in the cause, as the Greeks themselves had suffered severely, and been compelled to take arms to recover their liberties.

4. January 28th.  
His Excellency Baron de Blome, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, representing his Majesty the King of Denmark.

Although his Excellency had intimated that he thought it might not be necessary, to trouble the Deputation to wait on him, it was considered most respectful to do so; they therefore called at his residence, and, not finding him at home, left the address. They are happy to add, however, that, in his Excellency's communication, he assures the committee that he will lose no time in transmitting the address to his Sovereign, and feels convinced that it will be received with all the interest which an Address emanating from an assembly convened for so noble a purpose ought to inspire.

5. January 29th.  
His Excellency Don Manuel Moreno, Minister representing the government of Buenos Ayres, and Argentine Republic.

His Excellency received the Deputation with much kindness, and assured them, he would avail himself of the earliest opportunity of transmitting the Address to the government of Buenos Ayres.

The Deputation understood him to say that measures had been taken, soon after the establishment of the present form of government at Buenos Ayres, for the abolition of slavery within its territories, and that these must end in a few years in its total extinction. He stated, also, that a treaty had lately been entered into with the British government for more effectually suppressing the slave-trade.

6. February 1st.  
His Excellency the Baron de Cetto, Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, representing the King of Bavaria.

The Deputation were most cordially received by his Excellency. He assured them he was much gratified by the honour they had done him in calling, that although Bavaria possessed no colonies or slaves, he fully concurred in the sentiments expressed in the Address which was read to him, and was persuaded that his Majesty the King of Bavaria would most willingly co-operate in any way in his power, to promote the extinction of slavery and the slave-trade through the world.

7. February 6th.  
His Excellency Count Bjornstjerne, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, representing the King of Sweden.

The circumstances under which the Address was prepared for presentation to his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway having been briefly explained, and a copy of the address read, his Excellency expressed in earnest terms his desire to promote, by every means in his power, the objects referred to in the Address, and expressed his regret, that in consequence of the season, he would be prevented from forwarding the Address to his sovereign until the month of March. He would, however, avail himself of the earliest opportunity of so doing, and had no doubt that it would be most favourably received by the King. The Deputation understood him to say, that in the only colony (St. Bartholomew's) possessed by Sweden, there were no slaves. He requested to be informed by what means the association was supported, and begged of the Deputation to state in what manner they thought the King of Sweden could best promote its humane design, which they took the opportunity of doing.

8. February 8th.  
His Excellency Baron Bulow, Ambassador representing the King of Prussia, in reply to a communication addressed to him soliciting an interview for the Deputation to present the Address, requested, in consequence of indisposition, to be excused from receiving the deputation, but directed the Address to be sent to B. Hebel, Esq., the consul, who had received instruction from him to forward it, by the first opportunity, to his Majesty the King of Prussia.

9. February 9th.  
John L. Prevost, Esq., Consul-general representing the Canton of Zurich, Federal Directory.

The Deputation, after a few introductory remarks, read the Address, and Mr. Prevost assured them that he would avail himself of the first opportunity of forwarding it to the Burgo-masters and others constituting the Federal Directory. In the sentiments of it he fully concurred, and he felt assured that the Federal Directory would do the same. Their power of aiding the anti-slavery cause, he apprehended, was very limited, as they possessed no direct interest in slavery or the slave-trade, but, as far as it extended, it would be freely afforded.

10. February 11th.  
His Excellency Baron de Moncorvo, Viscount de Slap, Ambassador representing the Queen of Portugal.

The deputation were highly gratified by the frank, courteous, and candid manner in which they were received by this minister. The address having been read to him, he informed the deputation that he had received positive instructions from his government to forward no addresses, without previously communicating with them in reference to it; but from the interest he felt in this subject, he should take upon himself the responsibility of deviating from his orders, and transmit this address to Her Majesty, on Saturday next.

The deputation understood him to make the following remarks:—that his country, Portugal, had been accused of countenancing slavery and the slave-trade, to a greater extent than could be supported by facts—that in the reign of Joseph I., which commenced in 1759, a law was passed, declaring freedom to every slave who trod the soil of Portugal; that in 1836, her Majesty, the Queen of Portugal, passed, unopposed, an act for the more effectual extinction of the slave-trade; and that, although the Portuguese navy was not strong, yet many small vessels had been fitted out, and were now actively and successfully engaged on the coast of Africa, in the suppression of this iniquitous traffic.

He greatly deplored the slave-trade, as having a most injurious effect in blighting and destroying the fair commercial prospects of several of the finest colonies on the coast of Africa; and stated it to be his firm conviction, that nothing but improving Christian principles and instruction to the native chiefs, would prevent their continuing the wars and rapine which had so long desolated Africa.

He affirmed that the Portuguese government were sincere in their desire to suppress to the slave-trade, and are now determined on making the most strenuous and decided efforts for its extinction.

He admitted the Portuguese flag had been greatly disgraced in covering this traffic; and stated that he had now under examination, the papers of thirty-six vessels transmitted to him by Lord Palmerston, which had been captured by British cruisers. He found that the documents were in some instances forged, in other granted by men in the character of consuls, &c., particularly at Cuba, who had abused the power they had received from the Portuguese government; but the authorities of Portugal were now resolved on instituting a severe scrutiny into the conduct of these persons, and of preventing such proceedings in future. He alluded to and read to the deputation the speech of the minister for foreign affairs in Portugal, made on the 28th of last month, in which that functionary expressed his determination to adopt immediate measures for the extinction of the slave-trade. He expressed himself much pleased at the movement lately made in the Brazil, (of which he is a native,) for the abolition of slavery in that country.

He presented to the deputation a pamphlet on the slave-trade, addressed to Lord Palmerston, by Visconde de Se-la-Bandeira, printed in the Portuguese language, which, he remarked, contained some important facts, although he could not wholly approve of the spirit in which it was written.

He added that he should most readily at all times to receive or communicate any interesting reference to the important objects of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, in which he felt a deep interest.

11. February 11th.  
His Excellency Baron de Gersdorff, Minister resident, representing his Majesty, the King of Saxony.

The deputation were received by the minister, in a polite and affable manner. A copy of the address having been read, and the original presented, to be forwarded to his Majesty, the King of Saxony, the minister expressed himself much gratified in having the pleasure of meeting the deputation; and stated that, although his Sovereign had no direct interest in the subjects noticed in the address, yet he was persuaded his Majesty would fully concur in the just sentiments it expressed, and would readily unite in testifying his sense of the evils connected with the unrighteous system of slavery and the slave-trade.

He assured the deputation that he would avail himself of the first opportunity of forwarding the address to Dresden, for presentation to the King.

12. February 11th.  
His Excellency Thomas Murphy, Esq., resident Minister for the Republic of Mexico.

The deputation were received with much openness and courtesy by this minister, to whom the address was read. On its being handed to him, with a request that he would transmit it to the President of the Republic of Mexico, he expressed his full concurrence in the sentiments it expressed, and his conviction that it would be favourably received by the President of the Republic. He likewise reminded the deputation, that one of the first acts of the Mexican government had been to extinguish slavery in their territories, and that they had constantly employed a portion of the small naval force they possessed, in attempts to aid the suppression of the slave-trade.

He expressed his regret at the course which the British government had recently pursued in the recognition of the independence of Texas, and added, that the Mexican government and people may be regarded as pledged coadjutors in any efforts made for the universal abolition of slavery and the slave-trade.

13. February 12th.  
His Excellency Count Nounis de Pollon, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Sardinia.

After a few introductory remarks, the address was read to his Excellency, and a copy was presented for transmission to his Majesty, the King of Sardinia. He assured the deputation that he fully concurred in the sentiments expressed in the address, in reference to the twin abominations of slavery and the slave-trade, and he was quite persuaded that it would be most favourably received by his Sovereign, to whom he would immediately forward it. He informed the deputation that the Sardinian government have been anxiously and sincerely desirous of using all the influence they possess for suppressing the slave-trade, although they have no direct interest in the matter; and that, regarding it as the duty of every nation professing Christianity, to unite in efforts to annihilate this inhuman traffic, his government have recently resolved to adopt further measures to assist in promoting its universal extinction. He observed, that the sentiments of his nation and government on this subject were so generally known, that he believed there had been no instance of the Sardinian flag having been used by individuals engaged in this disgraceful trade. He stated it as his opinion, that the only means of effectually destroying the slave-trade, was the universal extinction of slavery; and the deputation understood him to express his regret, that our government did not watch with more vigilance the few ports which were now well known to be chiefly the places where the slave cargoes are landed, rather than employ so many of their cruisers with so little effect upon the coast of Africa.

His Excellency evidently felt a deep interest in the subject, and the result of the interview impressed the deputation with the gratifying conviction that, in as far as the power or influence of the Sardinian government extended, their co-operation might be relied on.

14. February 12th.  
His Excellency Chevalier, M. de Montmarquet, resident minister from his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the Brazils.

The address having been read, and a copy having been presented to be transmitted to the Emperor of the Brazils, his Excellency received it with much courtesy, and entered into a long and interesting conversation, in the course of which the deputation understood him to make the following remarks:—He stated the difficulties in the way of the abolition of slavery in the Brazils to be twofold; first, the degraded condition of the slaves, which he represented to be idle, immoral, ignorant, and ferocious; and, secondly, the peculiar institutions of the country, which constituted every free man a voter, so that it would be dangerous to the political rights of the community, that so overwhelming and ignorant a portion of the population should be suddenly put in possession of the franchise.

On the first point, the deputation reminded his Excellency that this objection to emancipation was precisely that which had been urged by the British West India planters; but that the result had proved how utterly unworthy it was of consideration. They stated to him the gratifying fact, that out of the large number who had been emancipated in the British colonies, there was not a solitary case on record of the spirit of revenge having led the negroes to murder, or even to assault, their late masters. And, with respect to the fitness of the Brazilian slaves for freedom, they showed that the negroes of St. Lucia, Mauritius, and the Cape of Good Hope, were in as low a state of morals and education as those in Brazil. On the second point the deputation stated, that they did not make their appeal to the Brazilian government for political rights, but for the natural rights—the personal liberty of the negroes, and the protection of the law of the country, in common with all other free persons.

It is due to his Excellency, to state, that, in reply to the observations which the deputation addressed to him, he disclaimed the idea of libelling the character of the negroes, and attributed their degradation to slavery, which he termed the plague spot of the country, and which he, in common with his government, was most anxious to get rid of. He not only spoke of the demoralising effects of slavery on those who were subjected to it, but also of its terrible reaction on the white population, especially the young; and, finally, admitted that the difficulty, in respect to the immediate assumption of political rights by the emancipated slaves, might be met by arrangements which would not render it necessary to alter the constitution of the country. It appeared from his Excellency's statement, that the *liberados*, or emancipated slaves, had not exercised political rights until after they had been naturalized; only their children, born free, being entitled to the rights of citizenship.

His Excellency then stated, that he was of opinion, with the celebrated Jefferson, that the two races—Europeans and Africans—could never enjoy equal political rights in the same country. He was told in reply, that however great Mr. Jefferson might have been as a statesman, in maintaining such an opinion he had overlooked a great fact, namely, the natural identity of the human race, whatever might be their diversity of color; that whites and blacks were governed by the same impulses—were grateful when justly and generously treated, and indignant when injured and abused; and that the enjoyment of equal privileges under an impartial government would remove prejudices and jealousies, and destroy the antipathy of the whites to the blacks, which had its origin in slavery.

His Excellency admitted the great extent of the slave-trade, but did not think the mortality connected with the system of slavery was so great as had been represented. He concurred, however, with the deputation in believing that the slave-trade could never be put down effectually, but by the abolition of slavery.

In the course of his communications his Excellency stated, in reply to questions proposed to him, that there had been several insurrections of slaves in the province of Bahia of late years, and that they had been put down by the sword. In reference to the negroes in this province he stated generally, that they were a powerful and intellectual body of men; chiefly, he was understood to say, of the Osasse and Minas nations. Very many of the former were able to read and write Arabic, and to solve problems in mathematics; and those of them who were free were among the best merchants in Brazil. He stated them to be extremely clever in making bargains; and, when once brought under engagements, scrupulously punctual and exact in fulfilling them.

The deputation did not fail here to point out the fact, that there was more danger in continuing the system of slavery than in abolishing it, and that man was fit for no other state than that of freedom.

On one other point his Excellency expressed himself decidedly, namely, that there was no legal hindrance to emancipation; that the laws were favourable to freedom; and that negroes having the means of purchasing their liberty, could compel their masters to discharge them upon a fair valuation.

In conclusion, his Excellency said he would be happy to receive the deputation at any time, and communicate any information in his power, and that he would transmit the address to his sovereign.

15. February 17.  
His Excellency Cheikh Effendi, Ambassador from His Imperial Majesty the Sultan Abdul Medjid, Emperor of the Ottomans, &c.

A letter having been addressed to his Excellency, soliciting an interview for the deputation to present the address from the General Anti-Slavery Convention, the following answer has been received.

Beyrout Square, 17th February, 1841.  
Sir:—I am directed by the Cheikh Effendi, the Ottoman Ambassador, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of the 13th inst., wherein, by the direction of the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, you express a wish of confiding to his care an address to his Majesty the Sultan, passed at the late convention held by that Society in London.

The Ambassador regrets, that under the existing customs and usages of Turkey, he could not take upon himself the responsibility of conveying to his Sovereign any document that is not of a strictly official nature, and emanating from the government where he is accredited.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient humble servant.

(Signed) Ed. ZORRAZ.  
J. H. Tredgold, Esq., &c.

16. February 17th.  
J. C. C. Bell, Esq., Consul General, representing his Royal and Imperial Highness, Leopold, Grand Duke of Tuscany.

The address having been read to the Consul General, and a copy having been presented for the Grand Duke, the Consul kindly informed the deputation that he would avail himself of the earliest opportunity of forwarding it to his Imperial Highness, and that he would accompany it with a letter, urging in strong terms the objects referred to in the address, and entreating the Grand Duke to exercise any influence he may possess in advancing them—which from his knowledge of his humane and enlightened character, he had no doubt his Highness would readily accede to.

17. February 17th.  
His Excellency Count Klemens von Metternich, Resident Minister from his Majesty Ernest Augustus King of Hanover.

In reply to a communication soliciting an interview for the deputation, his Excellency states that he must decline to receive the address from the Anti-Slavery Convention, which the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society wish to forward to his Majesty, the King of Hanover; but suggests that this address be confided for presentation to the King, to the Honorable Mr. Blich, the British Minister at Hanover.

18. February 18th.  
His Excellency Prince Esterhazy, Ambassador Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary from his Imperial Majesty, Emperor of Austria.

A letter having been addressed to his Excellency, soliciting an interview for the deputation—a note was received from the Prince, stating that he was unavoidably obliged to leave town, and could not have the honor of receiving the deputation; but adding, that he would send one of his secretaries, the Baron de Lubetzky, to the office, and requesting that the address for them Emperor of Austria might be delivered to him, which was accordingly done.—For. Anti-Slavery Reporter.

FRANCE.  
We hastily noticed in our last, the animated, and we are happy to say decisive debate, which arose on the subject of slavery in the French Chamber of Deputies, on the 7th instant. To-day we have the pleasure of laying before our readers two letters from M. Isambert, by which this important matter will be more fully detailed. It will be observed that the first of the two letters was written in anticipation of its occurrence. The sentiments which fell from the lips of M. Gouibert so offensively on the ears of the colonists of Martinique, were the simplest dictates of humanity towards the slaves. The letters follow.—Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter.

Paris, February 26th, 1841.  
DEAR SIR,—I avail myself of Mr. Wright's return to England, to send you a copy of a very interesting pamphlet, published in Paris by M. Gabbe Gouibert, ex-cure of Fort Royal, Martinique, who has been driven from that colony in consequence of a most christian and touching discourse delivered in his capacity and profession as a clergyman.

An abominable case which has just been decided at Guadeloupe, the imprisonment and torture during twenty-two months of a slave in a private dungeon, has furnished an occasion for exciting a strong opinion against slavery, which authorizes such barbarous punishments. A parliamentary notice has been given on this subject. We reckon on complete success; for M. Guizot, principal secretary of state, is favorable to us; and otherwise, facts speak so loudly, above all while they continue unpunished, that the chamber of deputies, little philanthropic as it may be, cannot withhold its sympathy from us.

We shall try at least to obtain the suppression of private dungeons, and to give a new impulse to the colonial commission presided over by the Duke de Broglie, which has done nothing for eight months but ask questions.

It is said that affairs proceed better in Jamaica. I beg you to send us the returns to January, 1841, of the exports from the emancipated colonies. Whatever may be the result, we shall not be discouraged.

Accept the assurance of my high consideration.

ISAMBERT.  
Secretary of the French Society for the abolition of slavery, J. H. Tredgold, Esq., &c.

Paris, March 8th, 1841.  
Sir,—I have the pleasure of informing you, in the name of all my colleagues, that we had yesterday in the chamber of deputies a spirited, but decisive debate on the question of slavery, on occasion of a scandalous acquittal which has taken place in Guadeloupe, in reference to an

imprisonment of twenty-two months in a private dungeon.

The ministry has positively promised to second with all its power the commission named last year, and presided over by the Duke de Broglie, for the solution of this great and difficult question.

It appears that the head of the last cabinet (Mr. Theire) had, without the concurrence of his colleagues, and contrary to the wish of Count de Remusat, our worthy and faithful colleague in this work, indirectly endeavored to throw obstacles in the way of this commission.

M. Guizot on the contrary, explained himself clearly and frankly. He showed himself such as you saw him in London, in June last.

We hope that a project of law, which shall determine the period of slavery, will be perfected in the next session. Accept, &c., &c.

ISAMBERT, Secretary, &c.

Our ministry has just published the accounts returned of the state of your emancipated colonies. It is impartially done. With regard to Antigua, the returns are satisfactory in every respect. The documents for the most part stop at 1840. If any thing should be published during the present session of parliament, make us acquainted with it.

The entire press say that the last blow, morally, was struck at slavery yesterday.

J. H. Tredgold, Esq., &c.

An interesting sample of the sentiments of the French press on this subject, will be found elsewhere in our columns, translated from *L'Esperance*, a Parisian journal. We are happy to add, on good authority, that a project of law determining the main points of this great question is likely to be introduced to the French legislature during the present session.

BRAZIL.

The following extract of a circular from the minister of foreign affairs to the ambassadors and consuls in Europe, published in the *Jornal do Commercio* of the 7th of January last, shows that the government are taking measures for the abolition of slavery in that empire.

"Whereas the imperial government should employ all means within its reach to promote within this empire the moral and material improvements of which a new, vast, and rich country, is susceptible, and where every thing that can contribute to its prosperity and future grandeur is but in its beginning, or has still to be created, it is my duty to recommend to your zeal various objects, making at the same time some observations which may guide you to contribute on your part, in that quarter of the world where you reside, towards the purposes which the government has proposed to itself.—You, as well as any reflecting politician, in looking attentively and with earnestness to the future of our country, cannot but acknowledge that its progress must be languid, and that this empire cannot reach the power and greatness for which it appears to be destined, if we do not earnestly think on, and make every possible effort for, calling to us the greatest possible number of free and industrious settlers.

"Our immense forests and extensive navigable rivers, our varied natural products, are so many capabilities, which, if turned to account by the rapid increase of a free and industrious population, will give us rank and respect amongst other nations, while with slave labor (the further importation of which is even henceforth impeded by solemn treaties which government, from duty and from principle, must maintain), this country will never be able to near such nations in industry and civilization; nor is it necessary to ponder on the perils which the empire would run for the future, exposed then to become a prey to some powerful nation, having a redundant population, if perchance, as is no more possible, the introduction of Africans licitly, or illicitly, were to continue, in a century in which all civilized nations have given themselves the hand to put down the slave-trade, and to establish daily more vigorous measures to attain this end.



# THE PHILANTHROPIST.

EDITED BY G. BAILEY, JR.

CINCINNATI:

Wednesday Morning, May 26, 1841.

## TRACTS.

Last week we sent out to contributors in the country over 2500 tracts on the financial power of slavery, including also our article on the agricultural statistics of the United States. Since last November we have circulated some fourteen thousand copies. The next tract will be issued soon after our return from the anniversary, and will embrace among other things, the article from Jay's View, published to-day, on the influence of the anti-slavery agitation on the permanence of the Union, and also Mr. Channing's speech, published last week.

## ANOTHER IMPORTANT JUDICIAL DECISION.

Last week in the Court of Common Pleas for Clermont county, the case of Debruler against Simmons came on for trial. Simmons had been sued before Justice Wiatt, of Monroe township, for employing a colored man to labor for him, in violation of the statute of 1807, and judgment had been given against him, from which he appealed. On the trial before the Court of Common Pleas, the employment of the colored man was not denied. Judge Fishback, however, decided, that the statute was in derogation of right, and that every presumption and inference that should govern a court must be in favor of liberty; that the party claiming must not only produce positive law, abridging such liberty, but prove by clear and indisputable testimony such facts as would bring the defendant certainly within such law. This not having been done, the court over-ruled the testimony, and the Jury found for the defendant.

## THE BLACK CODE.

The late decisions which have been made in some of our courts, touching the rights of the colored race, obviously indicate the policy of submitting all our black laws to a judicial test.

The act of 1807, pronounced by Judge Fishback to be in derogation of right, is, without doubt, unconstitutional, injuriously restraining the liberty of the citizen, and violating, both in reference to him and the colored labor he may employ, that clause in the eighth article of our constitution, which declares all men to be born equally free and independent, and to have the inalienable right of acquiring, possessing and protecting property. What would be thought of a law, that should fine a citizen for employing any man, with red hair, who had not given bond and security, &c., and obtained a freedom certificate?

The law relating to fugitives from service, commonly called the Black Law, is glaringly unconstitutional, because it is founded on a presumption that color is a badge of slavery, a presumption manifestly at war with the declaration in the first section of the eighth article of the constitution, which declares all men to be born equally free and independent, and with the second section, which declares, that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this State. Hence the necessary presumption, that every person within the limits of Ohio is a free man, and to be treated as such. It is unconstitutional further, because it violates the right of trial by jury, and restrains the liberties of the citizen in a most unwarrantable manner. Whence did the legislature derive its power to punish a man for giving money or counsel to a person said to be a fugitive slave?

The law relating to the testimony of colored people, is, clearly, injurious in its consequences to both races. For example, two colored men saw the riot committed the other day on the premises of Mr. C. Burnett, a white man, and were they permitted to testify, their evidence would be conclusive. For want of their testimony, the rioters may escape, and the ends of justice be defeated. This certainly violates the right, (declared by the constitution to be inalienable,) to protect property, to pursue and obtain happiness and safety. Further, when you prevent a colored man from bearing testimony against one who may have assaulted his person, abused his wife, robbed him of his money or trespassed on his grounds, do you not violate his "certain, natural, inherent and unalienable" right to enjoy life, acquire, possess, and protect property, to pursue and obtain happiness and safety? And yet this right is secured to him in the most emphatic terms by our constitution. But, the 7th section of the same article is still more clearly transgressed, to wit: that all courts shall be open, and every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have remedy by the due course of law, and right and justice, administered without denial or delay. How can he have remedy by due course of law, when he is excluded from the right of giving evidence to the truth, or producing colored witnesses, their testimony being all that in a great number of instances he must rely upon?

Finally, the law that cuts them off from the benefits of that portion of the common school fund, which arises from donations made by Congress, can be easily demonstrated to be unconstitutional. Sec. 25, of the eighth article declares—

"That no law shall be passed to prevent the poor in the several counties and townships in this State from an equal participation in the schools, academies, colleges, and universities within this State, which are endowed in whole or in part from the revenue arising from the donations made by the United States for the support of schools and colleges; and the doors of the said schools, academies and universities, shall be open for the reception of scholars, students and teachers of every grade, without any distinction or preference whatsoever, contrary to the intent for which the said donations were made."

What was this intent? The education of the poor of every grade, without any distinction or preference whatsoever. The language in which the donations were made by Congress, is just as unequivocal as that of the section just quoted. Now, who does not see that the law, in excluding seventeen thousands of the poor of this State from any "participation" in said schools &c., flagrantly violates this section? Argument cannot make the monstrous injustice more apparent. Recollect, that for twenty nine years after the constitution was formed, no law attempted to deprive the colored people of this inestimable privilege—it was reserved for the Assembly of 1831 to make the notable discovery, that the "poor of every grade," meant only the white poor. This was scandalous injustice—and, we doubt not, every honest jurist will confess, that the law is plainly unconstitutional.

There is but one disability under which colored persons in this State constitutionally labor—that is, the privation of the right of suffrage. All other disabilities are abominable impositions, the work of corrupt and prejudiced men, acting in disregard of their solemn oath to support the constitution. Let abolitionists everywhere seek favorable occasions to bring up cases in our courts, by which the Black Laws may be tested. The time is ripe for such a policy. Judicial decisions, on questions involving fundamental rights, exert an authoritative influence on the public mind.

## JUDICIAL DECISIONS.

We adverted in the foregoing article, to the vast importance of judicial decisions, on questions affecting human rights. It may not be uninteresting in this connection, to give a brief history of the celebrated decision in England, in the Somerset case, which declared that every slave became free the moment he set foot on British soil.

Prior to the year 1700, planters, merchants and others coming from the West Indies to Great Britain, were in the habit, for purposes of convenience, of bringing their slaves with them. When the latter ran off, as frequently happened, the newspapers, (as is the case now in this country,) were filled with advertisements, and base men hired to pursue them. No legal process was observed in their arrest. Wherever found, they were seized like brutes, and like brutes punished by the masters.

In the beginning of the eighteenth century, the public began to grow uneasy at these exhibitions of slavery. Hints were thrown out that such arrests were incompatible with English law; and the idea sprang up, that all slaves who were baptized became free. The slaves availing themselves of this sentiment, chose god-fathers among citizens who were willing to act as such, and were generally baptized.

Their masters, thereupon, fell into great tribulation, but finally in 1729, applied to York and Talbot, the attorney general, and the solicitor general, for the time being, and obtained the following opinion in their favor—

"We are of opinion, that a slave by coming from the West Indies into Great Britain or Ireland either with or without his master, does not become free, and that his master's right and property in him, is not thereby determined or varied; and that baptism does not bestow freedom on him, or make any alteration in his temporal condition in these kingdoms. We are also of opinion that the master may legally compel him to return again to the plantation."

The masters were greatly rejoiced. Publicity was every where given to the opinion, and the consequence was, slave-catching became, as it is now in our free states, a regular business. Still more, slavery was substantially established in England, for slaves were advertised to be sold at public auction, some times by themselves, at others along with horses, wagons &c.,—showing the dreadful consequences of a wrong judicial opinion. This state of things continued till 1765, when the conduct of David Lisle, a planter of Barbadoes, toward his slave Jonathan Strong, whom he had brought over from that island, gave occasion for the interference of the celebrated Granville Sharpe. Strong having been beaten by his master so unmercifully as to be incapable of labor, was permitted to go where he pleased. He applied to William Sharpe, a surgeon, for his advice, and was for the first time seen by Granville, who, so soon as the poor man was cured by his brother, obtained employment for him in the family of Mr. Brown, an apothecary. Soon after, his former master saw him, and hired two officials to seize him, selling him afterwards for thirty pounds. While in jail, Strong sent for his god fathers, but they were refused admission.—Granville Sharpe was then applied to, but he too being unable to gain access to the prisoner, waited upon the lord mayor, and entreated him to send for Strong, and hear his case. A day was set, counsel employed, and finally the case was tried. The opinion of Yorke and Talbot was quoted—the sentiment of the lawyers was rather in favor of re-commitment—but the lord mayor discharged the prisoner on the ground that he had been arrested without a warrant.

Mr. Sharpe from this moment became deeply interested in the cause of the slaves. "Thinking it high time that the law of the land should be known in regard to such cases, he applied to Doctor Blackstone, (afterwards Judge), but his opinion was unfavorable. Determined that the right should be made manifest, he devoted himself hereupon to the study of the law some two or three years, and, as the result of his studies, gave to the public in 1789, his book, entitled, "a representation of the injustice and dangerous tendency of tolerating slavery in England." In this, the principles of village were inquired into, the British constitution in its bearing upon the subject was considered, and the opinion of Yorke and Talbot, as also that of Blackstone, were examined and refuted. The book was circulated extensively, especially

among members of the bar, and produced great effect. At length, in 1772, a fair case was presented, for determining once for all the law on the subject; in fact there was a general desire that it should be decided.

"James Somerset," (says Thomas Clarkson, to whom we are indebted for the particulars just stated,) "an African slave, had been brought to England by his master Charles Stewart, in November, 1769. James, in process of time, left him. Stewart took an opportunity of seizing him, and had him conveyed on board the Ann and Mary, Captain Knowles, to be carried out of the Kingdom, and sold as a slave in Jamaica. The question was, 'whether a slave, by coming to England, became free?'"

"In order that time might be given to ascertain the law fully on this head, the case was argued at three different sittings. First, in January 1772; secondly, in February 1772; and thirdly, in May, 1772. And that no decision other than what the law warranted, might be given, the opinion of the Judges was taken upon the pleadings. The great and glorious result of the trial was, that as soon as every slave set his foot upon English territory, he became free. Thus ended the great case of Somerset, which, having been determined after a deliberate investigation of the law, can never be reversed while the British constitution remains."

We need not say what a powerful influence this decision had on the public mind against slavery. It is matter of history, and encouraging to those in this country who are seeking the establishment of the right, that this decision was not made till 72 years after the question was first agitated, and it was made too after several of the most able jurists of the realm had given contrary opinions. The decision was the result of the steady increase of anti-slavery sentiment in Great Britain. In this country, this question is already decided, in Massachusetts and Ohio, so far as the federal constitution will allow.—Slaves brought by their masters into these states become free—if they escape into them from slave States, they must then be given up. But, how long will this provision of the federal constitution be regarded as binding? By our courts, probably, so long as it stands; but by a large class of the people, it is even now disregarded. Who, but a ruffian, is willing to aid the slaveholder in capturing a slave!

The following eloquent remarks of Dr. Channing, are worthy of all consideration.

"The great difficulty in the way of the arrangement proposed is the article of the constitution requiring the surrender and return of fugitive slaves. A state, obeying this, seems to me to contract a great guilt as if it were to bring slaves from Africa. No man who regards slavery as among the greatest wrongs, can in any way reduce his fellow creatures to it. The flying slave asserts the first right of a man, and should meet aid rather than obstruction. Who that has the heart of a freeman, or breathes the love of a christian, can send him back to his chain? On this point however, the difficulty of arrangement is growing less. This provision of the constitution is undergoing a silent repeal, and no human power can sustain it. Just in proportion as slavery becomes the object of conscientious reprobation in the free States, just so fast the difficulty of sending back the fugitive increases. In the part of the country where I reside, it is next to impossible that the slave, who has reached us, should be restored to bondage. Not that our courts of law are obstructed; not that mobs would rescue the fugitive from the magistrate. We respect the public authorities. Not an arm would be raised against the officers of justice. But what are laws against the moral sense of a community? No man among us, who values his character, would aid the slave hunter. The slave hunter here would be looked on with as little favor, as the felonious slave-trader. Those among us, who dread to touch slavery in its own region, lest insurrection and tumult should follow change, still feel, that the fugitive who has sought shelter so far, can breed no tumult in the land which he has left, and that, of consequence, no motive but the unallowable love of gain can prompt to his pursuit; and when they think of slavery as perpetuated, not for public order, but gain, they abhor it, and would not for a moment replace a flying bondsman beneath the yoke. Thus this provision of the constitution is virtually fading away; and, as I have said, no human power can restore it. The moral sentiment of a community is not to be withstood. Make as many constitutions as you will: fence around your laws with what penalties you will, the universal conscience makes them as weak as the threats of childhood. There is a spirit spreading through the country in regard to slavery, which demands changes of the constitution, and which will master it if it cannot change it. No concerted opposition to this instrument is thought of, or is needed. No secret understanding among our citizens is to be feared at the South. The simple presence to their minds of the great truth, that man cannot rightfully be the property of man, is enough to shelter the slave. With this conviction we are pale-stricken, when called upon to restore him to bondage. Our sinews are relaxed; our hands hang down; our limbs will not carry us a step. Now this conviction is spreading, and will become the established principle of the free states. Politicians, indeed, to answer a party end, may talk of property in man, as something established or not to be questioned; but the people at large do not follow them. The people go with the civilized and Christian world. The South should understand this, should look the difficulty in the face; and they will see that, from the nature of the case, resistance is idle; that neither policy nor violence can avail. And, what is more, they have no right to reproach us with letting this provision of the constitution die among us. They have done worse. We are passive. They have actively, openly, flagrantly violated the constitution. They have passed laws, threatening to imprison and punish the free colored citizens of the North for exercising the rights guaranteed to every citizen by the national compact, i. e. for setting foot on their shores and using their highways. This wrong has been too patiently borne; and in one way we can turn it to good account. When approached with unfeignedness to the constitution, we can hold it up as our shield, and cite the greater disloyalty of the South as an extenuation of our own."

It is best, however, that neither party should be unfaithful. It is best, that both enlightened as to the spirit of our times, should make new ar-

rangements to prevent collision, to define the duties of each & all, to bring the constitution into harmony with the moral convictions and with the safety of North and South. Until some such arrangements are made, perpetual collisions between the two great sections of our country must occur. Notwithstanding the tendencies to a low tone of thought and feeling at the North in regard to slavery, there is a decided increase of moral sensibility on the subject, and in proportion as this shall spread, the free States will insist more strenuously on being released from every obligation to give support to what they deliberately condemn.

## COLORS MECHANICS.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the advertisements of colored mechanics, published in to-day's paper.

In Cincinnati, persons of color find it almost impossible to obtain admission for their children into the work-shops of white people. They would gladly take their sons and daughters from the river, and have them instructed in trades, but prejudice deprives them of the opportunity. Some of them being expert mechanics themselves, would be able to teach their own children; but their business is too small to allow establishment, a large enough.

Last week we were visited on by three of our colored friends, two of them carpenters, the third a painter, all of them, we know, excellent workmen, able to present the highest testimonials of their qualifications. They are steady, industrious, and cherish proper ideas of what is necessary to the elevation of their race. Their own people had no longer much work for them to do, and their white friends were but few. They disliked the idea of giving up their trades, and wished to know whether we could do something for them.

We gave them what encouragement we could—granted them the privilege of advertising in our columns—and promised to write an article soliciting attention to their interests.

We doubt whether abolitionists themselves, generally, are aware that there are so many first-rate colored mechanics in Cincinnati; otherwise, they would certainly feel it their duty to patronize them. We, white people, have an unlimited field for enterprise—enjoy the benefits of an unrestricted competition. But colored mechanics are restricted to the business given them by people of their own color, and a few white friends, who feel bound to promote the interests of the weakest. Under such circumstances, when it is considered how many legal disabilities colored persons labor under, how they are proscribed by prejudice, how often the subjects of insult, imposition and slander, philanthropic men of every name and opinion must realize the obligation of doing all they can to encourage their efforts at improvement, and extend among them a knowledge of the mechanical arts. On us, who believe that the race can be elevated in this country, this duty devolves most imperatively; & those who have imagined that they must always remain a degraded race, ought to ask themselves whether it is reasonable to believe so, until they have given to these neglected people equal advantages with themselves.

Why colored lads are denied the privilege of learning trades, we cannot understand. There are many abolitionists in this place, who are master mechanics, with establishments under their own control, and certainly their shops are not closed against a dark complexion.

We invite all who are willing to take colored apprentices, and all colored parents who wish their children apprenticed, to leave their names at our office.

## PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

Our readers were informed last week, that the National Anti-slavery Convention, held at New York, had nominated Mr. Birney for the Presidency, and Thomas Morris of this city for the Vice Presidency, of the United States. We need not say, that we shall sustain this nomination. This our friends might know from our past course. We are glad that the movement is made at this early period. It cannot be attributed now, to a sinister disposition to interfere with one party, for the sake of promoting the interests of another. Abolitionists will have time to make up their minds, coolly, deliberately, and before they are entangled with party-pledges. The country will learn from it, that we are not dispirited, but that we are bent on carrying out our views of what we hold to be the true policy of our country; and the nomination will serve as a standard, around which to rally the friends of Universal Liberty.

It is now demonstrated to the country, that the anti-slavery question is one of high political importance, and that the people of the free states are involved in the evil of slavery, to such an extent politically, that the exercise of their political power is necessary to relieve them from its injurious influence. Political abolitionists hold that it is the greatest political evil in the nation, without the removal of which there can be no essential reform in the administration of the government. On this principle, they are resolved to act. Finding that other parties are arrayed on different principles, all of them regarding subordinate inconveniences, as principal evils, all of them indifferent to the great evil, all but one pledged to connive at and sustain it; but one result is left them—they must have candidates of their own, representing primarily the interests of free labor, and the doctrine of equality of rights in all classes of people in this country. This policy may have the appearance of temerity—but their trust is in the truth of their principles, which they believe can be best illustrated and enforced by this course. They expect not immediate triumph, but they are willing to wait.—Fifteen months was Marcus Morton nominated for the Governorship of Massachusetts. The sixteenth time he was elected by a majority of one vote. He is again a candidate. This is the result of perseverance. Who will say, that

the party electing him, holds principles of more vital importance than ours? They were laughed at when they commenced with their "everlasting" candidate, as we now are. We bide our time patiently. For one, I would rather stand with abolitionists, and be defeated twice sixteen years, and at last succeed, than go on truckling to the slave-power, and voting for its candidates, till the country is ruined without remedy.

For the Philanthropist.

Dr. BAILEY:—Permit me through your paper to say to my friends, some of whom have expressed a wish to know whether I design to answer a pamphlet which during my absence from the city has been published respecting the proceedings of the First Baptist church, that I consider such a communication, so vindictive in its spirit, so reckless in its statements, and so uncharitable in its influences, unworthy a reply, and especially since Mr. Robbins himself regarded it unfit for his signature. I presume too, whatever proofs I may bring to shew its inaccuracy, they who have not hearts to sympathize with their brethren in bonds will still charge me with wrong; and to those who feel and pray daily for the slave nothing further than I have already communicated is needed for my justification. Of brother Robbins' appendix I have only to say, I thank him for the testimony he has borne to my fair character; and, in behalf of the slave, I thank him for his public announcement of his long established opposition to slavery. With the kindest feelings to himself and the hope he will soon lay aside his unhappy prejudice against abolitionists; and with sorrow for the authors of the other production who have sought to injure my character as a minister and a man, I now decline any further controversy with them.

Yours very respectfully

WM. HENRY BRISBANE.

## CORN LAWS.

The ship Caladonia brings intelligence of the most important movement which has been made by the British government, since the emancipation act of 1838. The British ministry has at last announced, that the modification of the corn-laws is to be made a cabinet question. The proposition is, to substitute for the present fluctuating scale of duties, a moderate fixed duty on the importation of foreign corn. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has also stated his intention to propose two most important changes, the first an alteration in the duties on foreign and colonial timber, the second, an alteration in the imposts on colonial sugar.

The announcement of Lord John Russell in regard to a revision of the Corn Laws, had produced great excitement throughout the kingdom. The land-holders were exasperated, but the people were enthusiastic in their support of the ministry.

"The London Chronicle" (radical) of the 3d inst. says: "The sensation produced by the Government notice of Friday night on the Corn-laws is rapidly extending through the country. Every where it is the signal of excitement and determination. By the monopolists it will never be forgiven, and, by the people it will never be forgotten. Ministers have fairly thrown themselves on the nation for support in the assertion of a great national right and interest. The response will soon be heard in thunder. The untaxing of the people's bread is a prospect full in view; and the people will spring toward it like lions on their prey."

Perhaps no movement in the history of the world, since the abolition of slavery in the British colonies, is fraught with more important consequences, both to Great Britain, and this country. It is almost too successful—and of this there can be no doubt; succeed it must, if not now, yet within a very short period—it will give relief to the suffering millions of England, and thus mitigate the violence of Chartism while it will strengthen its advocates and give new force to their just demands. It will enable Great Britain to keep more of her population at home, and thus increase her manufactures, which will find an enlarged market in this country, as our farmers will then have value to give in exchange. By opening a vast market for our wheat, it will greatly quicken our industry, and tend to develop the immense resources of these western and north-western states. It will place trade between the two countries on a fairer footing, and while it will add comfort and power to the people of England, will aid us to relieve ourselves from oppressive debts. By multiplying the vital connections between us, it will foster friendly feelings, and so identify our interests, as to reduce incalculably the chances of war between the two great powers, on the preservation of whose amicable relations, owing to their illimitable commerce, and their being the chief depositories of free institutions, and an active Christianity, depends to a great extent the peace of the world.

By rendering a tariff of protection in relation to British goods entirely unnecessary in this country, it will remove one element of discord between North and South; and, in thus preventing the agitation of a question calculated to absorb the American mind, and create great division of sentiment, it will baffle the efforts of interested politicians to divert the attention of the people from the consideration of the question of slavery. Finally, it will lessen the relative importance of cotton by introducing into our trade with Great Britain, a new regulator of exchanges. The wheat-grower after awhile will be of more consequence than the cotton-planter, and we may expect that their interests of the wheat-culture, will then receive from government at least as much attention as the interests of cotton now do.

The effect of the movement on the agitation of the tariff question in this country, we regard as of particular importance to anti-slavery men. It is evident, that politicians have for some time been preparing the way for bringing up this subject, so soon as the bank question could be adjusted. The effect would have been, another postponement of the consideration of slavery. Let the corn-law reform succeed in England, and the tariff question will be divested to a great extent of its importance, for who would think of proposing a high tariff on British goods, when she had opened her market to our staples? Under such circumstances, no great question could interpose to prevent the national consideration of the subject of slavery.

**ABOLITION IN FRANCE.**  
A project for the Abolition of slavery has been introduced into the French Chambers.

## NO PAPER NEXT WEEK.

There will be no paper next week, as the editor will be obliged to attend the Anniversary.

**ARREST OF THE GREAT FORGER.**—A man, believed to be Parker the great English forger, has been arrested in St. Louis, held to bail in the amount of \$16,000, and in default of that is now in prison.

Since then released for want of proof.

**STANSHIP PRESIDENT.**—It is generally believed that this steamship is lost. No intelligence of her has yet been received.

**McLEOD.**—The arguments before the Supreme Court in the case of McLeod, were closed May 19th. The decision of the court remains yet to be given.

## NOTICE.

Dayton, May 22nd, 1840.  
Dr. BAILEY:—Will you please announce in the Philanthropist that the Rev. T. E. Thomas of Hamilton will deliver an anti-slavery address in Dayton, on Thursday the third of June, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Yours truly,  
LUTHER BRIEN.

## NOTICE.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the ILLINOIS ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, will be held at Galesburg, in Knox county, on Wednesday, the 31st day of June next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

GEORGE W. GALE, Rec. Sec.

## NOTICE.

The Quarterly meeting of the Clinton co. A. S. Society, will be held at the Presbyterian church in Wilmington at 10 o'clock A. M., on Monday, May 24th. Rev. D. Burgess of West Union, H. H. Thomas Morris, and perhaps other distinguished speakers will be present. A great number of our citizens are invited.

A. BROOKE, Sec'y.

May 3rd, 1841.  
On Tuesday the 25th of May, a Convention of the Anti-slavery citizens of all parties will be held in the court house in Wilmington, Clinton co., at 1 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of making arrangements for selecting suitable candidates for county and state officers to be voted for at the fall elections.

Hon. Thos. Morris and others it is expected will address the meeting.

MANY CITIZENS.

Messrs. WOODSON & TINSLEY, House Carpenters and Joiners, near the corner of Eighth and Broadway, Cincinnati, feeling grateful for their patronage since their association as a firm, inform their friends and the public, that they are prepared to do all kinds of House Carpenter and Joiner's work at the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.

WOODSON & TINSLEY.

WILEY REXFORD, House Painter and paper hanger on Clay St. between 12th and 13th St. and between Main and Walnut Cincinnati, informs the public that he is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line at the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.

WILEY REXFORD.

## SPRING FASHIONS.

The subscriber is now receiving his Spring stock of Florence or Tuscan Brail, Leghorn and Bazar bonnets Misses Hats &c.

Purchasers may rest assured of not only getting the latest fashion, but the best of goods, at prices to suit the times, either at Wholesale or Retail, at No. 5, Fourth street between Main and Walnut.

A. F. ROBINSON.

N. B.—Just received some beautiful Florence Brail-Bonnets.

## FELOGEE SCHOOL.

At Richmond, Logan Co., O., will commence its first session on the 1st of April next. The Rev. J. B. Johnston and the Rev. Mr. Fonge will teach the following: Bible Criticism, Metaphysics, Natural and Moral Philosophy, Rhetoric and Logic. Joseph Forsyth, teacher of Chemistry. Dr. R. Mann, teacher of Latin and Greek languages, Mathematics, Geography and History. Wm. V. Simpson, assistant in languages.

Terms, \$5. entrance fee, and \$10 for every session after that; more or less for fuel.

Cincinnati Prices Current.  
Corrected Weekly for the Philanthropist.  
May 26, 1841.

Salmon, 40 lb. box	50	N. Orleans, lb. 1/2	
Cod, lb.	6 1/2	" 7/8 in lbs	
Figs, " "	12 1/2	Loaf, 14 to 17	
Filberts, lb.	10	Lump, 13 a 15	
Glass, box		White Hav., 12 1/2	13
8 by 10	3 50	Brown, "	none
10 " 12	4 50	Sugar	
4 50	4 75	Common, lb. 1 25	15
Singer, race, lb. 12 1/2		Melos, " 20	35
ground, " 12 1/2		Spanish, " 10 00	30 20
Wade's, " 5 10	20	Salmatou, " cast 6 kg 10	
Wade's, kg. 5 50	5 50	Salt	
Dupont, " 7 00	7 25	Zamouille, bu. 30	
train-		Kanawha, " 30	33
Wheat, bush. 62	75	T. Island, " 40	
Corn, " " 30	10	S. Peter, cr. lb. 9	10
Oats, " 16		Shot, bag. 1 75	30 60
Peas, com. lb. 5	6	Soup, No. 5, lb. 8	6
Figs, ton, 6 7		" 5, 5 lb. 1-3	
Feed, cwt. 5 50	6 00	Turnip-seeds, lb. 100	
Indigo-		Tallow, lb. 7 1/2	8
Caracas, 1 1/2	75	Tess-	
Manilla, " 1 50	1 62	Imperial, lb. 90	85
Iron, bar, " 4 1/2	5	Gump, vend. 90	85
Hoop, " 6 1/2	5 1/2	Iron, 25	85
Feed, pig, " 5 1/2	5 1/2	Southing, " 62	70
Bar, " 4 1/2	5 1/2	Top, X.P. 13 50	
White dry " 10	12 1/2	block, lb.	
In oil, keg, 2 30	3 00	Tobacco-	
Red, lb. 12 1/2	10	No. 1, lb. 35	45
Osgood, lb. 4 1/2		" 13 1/2 lb. 10	20
Cut, lb. 3 1/2	5	Ky. No. 1, 6 lb. 6 1/2	8
Wine, gal. 1	145	No. 2, " 7 1/2	
1 1/2	150	Vinegar, gal.	



